

bird diving in the waters of Lake Coo loongup which averaged 11 to 12 seconds under water and 5 to 6 seconds on the surface. The Lake Coo loongup records were made on a bird "in the shallows close inshore" (vide the observer's field notes). The depth of the water was not estimated but it probably would not have exceeded six feet.

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Birds Recently Established in the Central Wheatbelt.—During the early part of 1954 I spent two months in the Danguin district. This area lies in the Central Wheatbelt, 100 miles east of Perth, and midway between Brookton and Kellerberrin. Amongst the birds observed there, several species were of particular interest in that they were only recently established in the area.

The Kookaburra (*Dacelo gigas*) was a conspicuous, though perhaps not abundant, species. I observed it at several points up to seven miles west of Danguin. A group of eight birds were established near my camp-site; at another point I once recorded two individuals; and at a third point a chorus of calls indicated the presence of another small group of Kookaburras. One was also noted at Brookton on January 1, 1954. Serventy and Whittell, in *Birds of W.A.*, regard the species as being a "casual visitor east of Northam to Kellerberrin". At Danguin, however, the Kookaburra has become at least temporarily resident. Local opinion indicates that they have only recently arrived in the district. One farmer stated that he had never seen the bird in the district prior to December 1953, and another that he first observed them early in 1953, since when their numbers have increased considerably.

Increases in the numbers of Manded Geese (*Chenonetta jubata*) have recently been noticed in numerous areas in the South-West. A farmer at Jacob's Well (8 miles west of Danguin) informed me that a pair of the geese arrived on his property in 1952. In 1953 they were joined by about a dozen more, and have since increased till the flock totalled about 60 individuals. Although this flock was the only one I encountered, various duck shooters informed me that they had observed similar increases elsewhere in the district, and especially at Lake Mears, to the south of Danguin, where the species is now reputed to be exceedingly abundant.

While visiting the district in 1951, I recorded the appearance of the Senegal Turtle-dove (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) at Danguin townsite (*W.A. Naturalist*, vol. 2, p. 195.) My recent visit revealed that the colony has declined; there are now none resident on the townsite and I only observed two individuals during the whole of my period of observation. These were on the outskirts of the town, near some abandoned buildings. Four miles to the east of Danguin, however, in the large town of Quairading, the species was both common and conspicuous, and birds are reported to have occurred there for at least five years.

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